

# The University Seminars Newsletter



**Fall** 2020

# LETTER from the DIRECTOR

Dear Seminars Community,

I begin this semester hoping that all of you are well and are able to deal with the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic as best as possible. I speak for the office when I say we are happy and willing to help if we can.

Columbia University has had the enormous burden of deciding when it is safe to meet in person, in many areas. In the interest of our Seminars Community, I will exercise extreme caution on this. Clearly, there will be no in-person meetings this fall. I hope this situation improves in the New Year. Obviously, in NYC and in our country, this will be an intense few months for all the obvious reasons.

The 75th Anniversary / Book Launch party was postponed, but the book itself is forthcoming as planned in November 2020. I will look into getting discounts for all seminar members. If you are interested, please email the office.

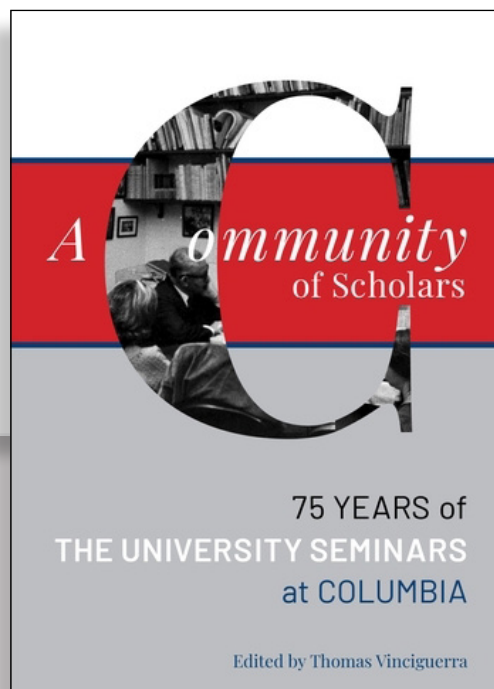
You can pre-order this fascinating collection of essays, *A Community of Scholars: Seventy-Five Years of The University Seminars at Columbia* here:

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS**

Please continue to meet using Zoom. Our office can offer expert help. I very much look forward to seeing you all in person next year.

Warm regards,

Alice Newton, Interim Director  
The University Seminars



## ZOOMING through the fall

***All University Seminar meetings will be held virtually for at least the fall 2020 semester.***

The University Seminars office is supporting seminars that meet virtually. If you do not have the premium version of Zoom, contact Pamela Guardia for help. Instructions for using Zoom are online.

**GUIDELINES For HOSTS**  
**GUIDELINES For ATTENDEES**

## Tuesday, October 27

4-6 pm

### The 2020 GENERAL MEETING For Seminar Chairs

Announcing The University Seminars 2020 General Meeting. This is a once yearly meeting for all University Seminar chairs. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 meeting will be held over Zoom on Tuesday, October 27th from 4-6 pm. Chairs must register to receive a meeting link. We ask for at least one representative from each seminar; if the chairs are unavailable to attend, a seminar may designate a member or associate member to serve as proxy.

Note: A rapporteur may not register as proxy. Rapporteurs may not attend the General Meeting.

To ensure your agenda item is received, please register for the General Meeting by October 16th. Agenda items will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

**REGISTER HERE**

## NEW Guidelines

### The University Seminars COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

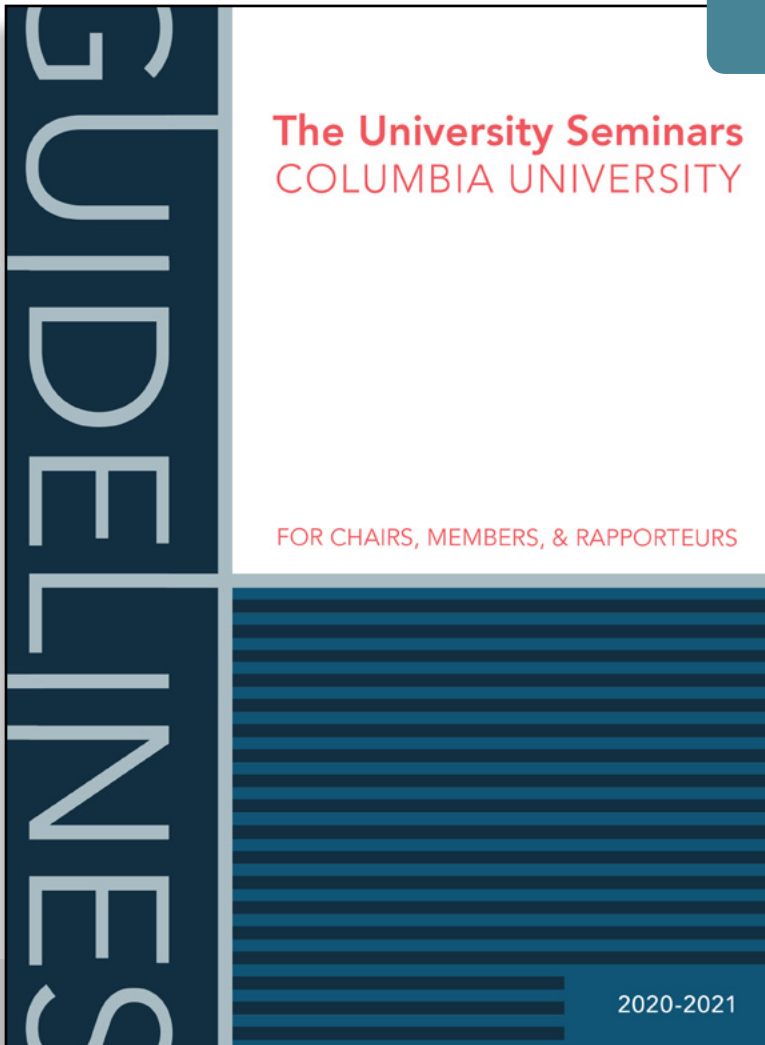
FOR CHAIRS, MEMBERS, & RAPPORTEURS

Many of our policies and procedures have changed for the 2020-2021 academic year. The Guidelines include the new procedure for acknowledgement of the privacy policy. All seminars are required to know and adhere to the new policy. Meeting moderators are available to help all seminars adhere to the policy and initiate meetings successfully. All new information is fully described in the Guidelines.

**Please review the guidelines carefully!**

### 2020-2021 GUIDELINES

Orientations will be provided for all new and returning rapporteurs. Pamela Guardia will reach out to rapporteurs directly with the orientation schedule.



2020-2021

## Returning to Campus

For information on campus reopening procedures, public health, students, and university updates, see Columbia University's

**COVID-19  
Resource Guide  
for the Columbia  
Community**

### COVID-19 RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE COLUMBIA COMMUNITY

FAQs · Preparedness · Medical Center

Reopening ▾ Public Health ▾ Students ▾ University Updates ▾ Videos | I Need Information About Documents

Home | I Need Information About

#### RETURNING TO CAMPUS



##### 1. Read the Enhanced University Health and Safety Policy

This policy has been established to help protect individuals in the Columbia community and our neighbors.



##### 2. Read and Sign the Health Compact

Everyone who returns to campus must sign the University Health Compact, which can be found in the required online safety training.



##### 3. Take Safety Training

If you are returning to campus, you must take the COVID-19 safety course *before you return to campus*.



##### 4. Self-quarantine, If Required

International students and those traveling to campus from certain states or territories must self-quarantine as required by New York State.



##### 5. Get Tested

To provide an additional layer of safety, Columbia will require an initial single COVID-19 PCR diagnostic test of all faculty, staff, and students returning to campus.



##### 6. Complete the Daily Symptom Self-check

All faculty, staff, and students must complete a daily symptom self-check before entering campus.

[Read the FAQs](#)

***All University Seminar meetings and events will be held virtually at least through the Fall 2020 semester.***

|                 |          |                                       |
|-----------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Monday          | 9.7      | Labor Day                             |
| Tuesday         | 9.8      | Autumn Term begins                    |
| Saturday-Sunday | 9.19-20  | Rosh Hashanah (begins sunset on 9.18) |
| Sunday          | 9.28     | Yom Kippur (begins sunset on 9.29)    |
| Saturday-Friday | 10.3-9   | Succoth (begins sunset on 10.2)       |
| Monday          | 10.12    | Indigenous Peoples Day                |
| Tuesday         | 10.27    | General Committee Meeting 4-6         |
| Monday          | 11.2     | Academic Holiday                      |
| Tuesday         | 11.3     | Election Day–University Holiday       |
| Thursday-Friday | 11.26-27 | Thanksgiving Holidays                 |
| Friday-Friday   | 12.11-18 | Hanukkah (begins sunset on 12.10)     |
| Monday          | 12.14    | Autumn Term ends                      |
| Thursday        | 12.24    | University Holiday                    |
| Friday          | 12.25    | Christmas Day                         |
| Thursday        | 12.31    | University Holiday                    |

## Conferences and Symposia

### 515 | Latin America and 771 | Indigenous Studies

10.12

In honor of the first Commemoration of Indigenous Peoples Day at Columbia University.

Webinar/Zoom event: "Indigenous Peoples of the Americas and the Covid-19 Pandemic"

Organized by The University Seminars on Latin America and Indigenous Studies, with the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, and cosponsored by Native American Council, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Center for the Study of Social Difference, Mailman School of Public Health, Institute of Latin American Studies, at Columbia University, and Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at NYU.

REGISTER HERE

IN HONOR OF THE FIRST COMMEMORATION OF  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020 | 7:00PM (EST)

REGISTER HERE: [bit.ly/2GPYOTP](https://bit.ly/2GPYOTP)

Sachem HawkStorm,

Welcome from the Lenape People

**Lisa Bellanger** (Anishnabe), International Indian Treaty Council, Board of Directors

**Dr. Myrna Cunningham** (Miskita), President, Fondo para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas de América Latina y el Caribe

**Victor Lopez Carmen** (Crow Creek Sioux Tribe and Yaqui), Co-Chair Global Indigenous Youth Caucus

**Tarcila Rivera Zea** (Quechua), President, International Indigenous Women's Forum, Vice-President, Chirapaq

**Sara Nawashahu Yawanawá-Bergin** (Yawanawa), Chief of Shukuvena Village

**Janene Yazzie** (Diné (Navajo), Dzit Asdáán (Strong Women) Command Center for Covid Relief



Organized by The University Seminar on Indigenous Studies, The University Seminar on Latin America and the Institute for the Study of Human Rights and cosponsored by Native American Council, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Center for the Study of Social Difference, Mailman School of Public Health, Institute of Latin American Studies, at Columbia University, and Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Native Studies Forum and The Latinx Project at New York University.

### 787 | Material Texts

10.23

The Material Texts seminar will host a symposium on Oct. 23, 2-4 pm via Zoom: **Teaching Remotely with Distinctive and Special Collections: Strategies and Successes**, with Ryan Cordell, Megan Cook, Kaoukab Chebaro, Emily Runde, and Michelle Wilson.

Please contact Rapporteur Cat Lambert to register: [cl3509@columbia.edu](mailto:cl3509@columbia.edu).

### 795 | Thinking Europe Now

9.17

#### 20/20 Vision in a Time of Crisis

The University Seminar on Thinking Europe Now held a virtual conversation with Etienne Balibar, Adam Tooze, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Emmanuelle Saada, moderated by Bernard Harcourt

The Covid-19 pandemic and public health crisis; economic collapse; waves of anti-racist protests; threats to democracy and rising authoritarianism in the U.S. and elsewhere, all against a backdrop of an ever-worsening climate crisis... How can we make sense of the current moment in history? Bernard Harcourt engages Etienne Balibar, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Adam Tooze, and Emmanuelle Saada in a wide-ranging discussion about these destabilizing developments that bring into focus fundamental fault lines in the world today.

This event was co-sponsored by the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Columbia Global Centers | Paris, the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought, the European Institute, and the Alliance Program.

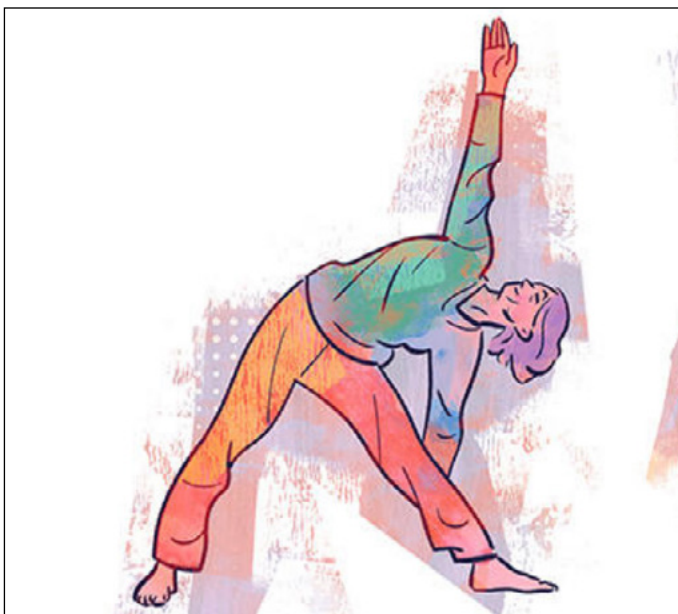


## Publications, Awards, and Special Sessions

### EPIC YOGA

A yoga program for EPIC members led by Virginia Papaioannou, Professor of Genetics and Development, and a registered teacher with the Yoga Alliance Registry, was featured in Columbia Magazine.

[Read more...](#)



**Ginny Papaioannou**, emerita professor of genetics and development. (Kyle T. Webster)

### 405 | Studies in Religion

**Patton Burchett**, *A Genealogy of Devotion: Bhakti, Tantra, Yoga, and Sufism in North India*

### 417 | Eighteenth-Century European Culture

**Elizabeth Powers** has shared the recent publication of an essay of Goethe and Burney in the journal *Arion*. [Read more...](#)

**Ramesh Mallipeddi** (University of Colorado, Boulder), who recently presented work at the seminar, has been named editor of *Eighteenth-Century Studies*.

**Kathy Lubey** has been invited to join the editorial board of *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*.

**Stephanie Hershinow's** book, *Born Yesterday: Inexperience and the Early Realist Novel* was released in

paperback. [Read more...](#)

### 511 | Innovation in Education

**Elizabeth Cohn**, RN, PhD, the co-chair of the Seminar on Innovation in Education, spoke on "Engaging, Recruiting, and Retaining Minority Participants in Clinical Research," at the annual meeting of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Strokes Parkinson's Disease Biomarkers Program.

### 445 | Modern East Asia: Japan

*Revolution Goes East*  
virtually launched  
Thursday, September 17  
6 - 7:30 pm

[CLICK TO ORDER](#)

**REVOLUTION GOES EAST**  
IMPERIAL JAPAN  
and SOVIET  
COMMUNISM  
TATIANA LINKHOEVA

### 613 | Full Employment, Social Welfare, and Equity

#### *A Tribute to Helen Ginsburg*

**Helen Ginsburg** (stepping down as chair) was in on the founding of the Seminar on Full Employment, Social Welfare, and Equity, has been a member and a presenter throughout its 33 year history, and has served as its co-chair for the last 21 years. Professor Emerita of Economics at Brooklyn College, Helen brought to the seminar a broad perspective and accomplished scholarship, encompassing not only her chosen field of economics but history and cross-national or comparative study. [Read More...](#)



## 661 | Religion in America

**Hillary Kaell**, *Christian Globalism at Home: Child Sponsorship in the United States*

**Michael D. McNally**, *Defend the Sacred: Native American Religious Freedom beyond the First Amendment*

## 689 | Memory and Slavery

**Meredith Bergmann's** Central Park statue of women's rights pioneers Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Sojourner Truth was unveiled in August.

[Read more...](#)



**Meredith Bergmann's** Women's Rights Pioneers monument, featuring Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony, And Elizabeth Cady Stanton

## 721 | Comparative Philosophy

We are excited to share that **Karsten Struhl's** paper "What Kind of Illusion is the Illusion of Self" has been published in the most recent issue of the journal *Comparative Philosophy*. Karsten presented an earlier version of this paper back in February in our seminar. *Comparative Philosophy* is an open access journal and his article can be found [HERE](#).

## 791 | Science and Subjectivity

**Amy Pollack's** artworks are featured in the opening of the first virtual gallery walk at CUIMC, and her book with **Robert Pollack**, "*The Course of Nature*" is the subject of the third exhibit, in a virtual version of the Engineering and Biology building. [See more...](#)



**Dr. And Mrs. Pollack in 19th Century Garb**, cotton thread, acrylic fabric, paint, felt, buttons, and cotton fabric, by Amy Pollack

## 711 | Literary Theory

NEW BOOKS  
IN THE  
Arts & Sciences

Monday, November 16, 2020 • 1:00pm  
VIRTUAL EVENT

**Matthew Hart**  
*Extraterritorial: A Political Geography of Contemporary Fiction*

Merve Emre, *University of Oxford*  
Denise Cruz, *Columbia University*  
Adam Tooze, *Columbia University*  
Alan Stewart, *Columbia University*

**EXTRATERRITORIAL**  
A POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY OF  
CONTEMPORARY FICTION  
MATTHEW HART

SPONSORS: The Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities  
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The Department of English and Comparative Literature

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

[www.heymancenter.org](http://www.heymancenter.org)

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MICHAEL D. MCNALLY  
**DEFEND  
THE  
SACRED**  
NATIVE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS  
FREEDOM BEYOND THE  
FIRST AMENDMENT

Christian  
Globalism  
at Home

CHILD SPONSORSHIP  
IN THE UNITED STATES

Hillary Kaell

[LINK TO PRESS](#)



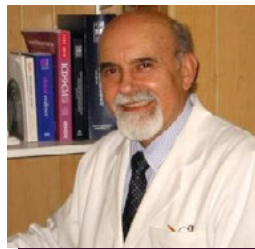
# In Memorium

## 407 | The Renaissance

**Leatrice Mendelsohn** died January 31st at the age of 83. [Read more...](#)

## 507 | Death

Longtime chair of The University Seminar on Death, **Michael Bartalos** passed away on May 18, 2020, at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center in the Bronx, New York. [Read more...](#)



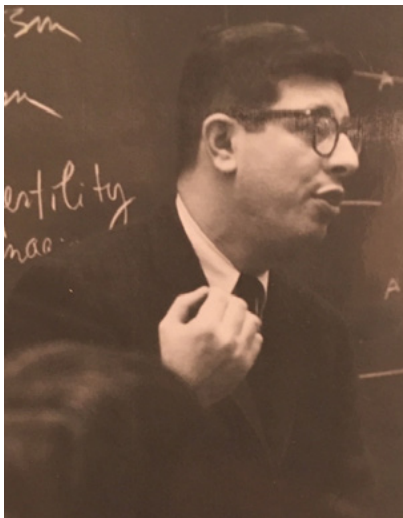
Michael Bartalos

## 525 | The Middle East

**Mahmoud I Essaid** passed away on April 7th at his home in Old Greenwich, CT. Mahmoud Essaid was one of the most devoted members of the Seminar. He seldom missed a meeting, and he would often discuss the issues with me and others at the break, although he seldom said anything during the meetings themselves. We will miss his kind intelligence. [Read more...](#)

## 531 | Culture, Power, Boundaries

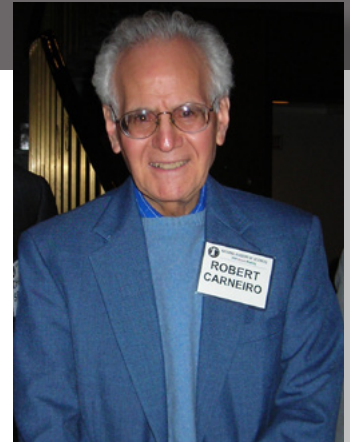
**Abraham Rosman**, Professor Emeritus, Barnard College, Columbia University, and longtime member of several seminars, passed away on April 13, 2020. A memorial was held for him over Zoom on July 3, 2020. [Read more...](#)



Abraham Rosman

**Robert Carneiro**, longtime seminar member, died peacefully on the morning of June 24, listening to Beethoven with his son, Brett. [Read more...](#)

Robert Carneiro



# Got news?

Deadline for the Winter 2021 issue is **January 4, 2021**

Please review our [submissions guidelines](#).

**MAKE A DONATION**